



WISCONSIN DNR  
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

LAKE: White Sand

COUNTY: Vilas

YEAR: 2016

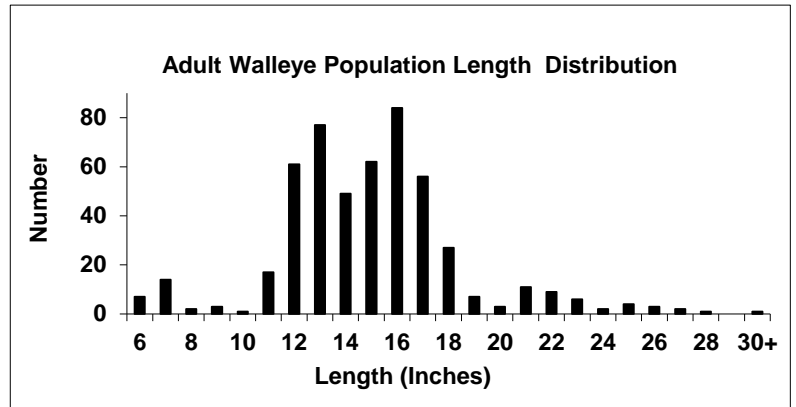
A comprehensive fishery survey was conducted of White Sand Lake, Vilas County, from April 22 through June 9, 2016 to determine the status of the fishery. White Sand is a moderately fertile drainage lake with predominantly sand and gravel bottom substrates. It has a surface area of 734 acres, 5.47 miles of shoreline, and a maximum depth of 71 feet.

### Walleye

A mark-recapture survey of White Sand Lake was conducted to estimate the number of adult\* walleyes present. Three hundred and forty-eight adult walleyes were fin clipped in 6 days of netting, and 40 adult walleyes were recaptured during a single electrofishing run.

Based on these results, White Sand lake is estimated to contain 1,027 adult\* walleyes (1.4/acre). Approximately 55% of adult walleyes were at least 15 inches long. These numbers do not reflect the entire walleye population present in White Sand Lake, as smaller juvenile walleye are not part of this estimate. The longest walleye captured was a 31.8 inch female.

\* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye (regardless of length) and those of unknown sex  $\geq 15$  inches in length.

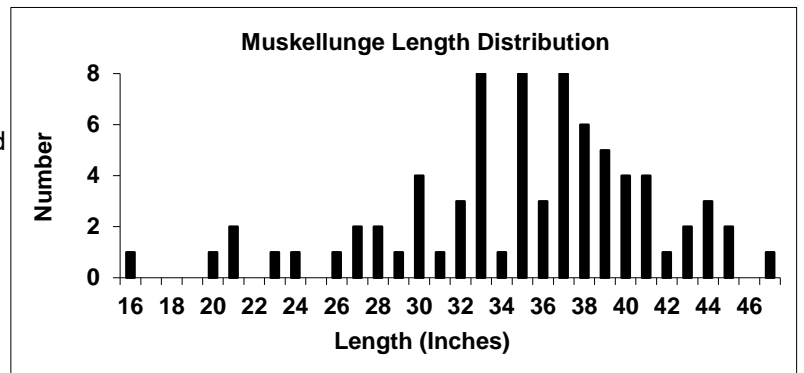


### Muskellunge

During the survey 74 adult muskellunge were captured and fin clipped. Approximately 23% of adult\* muskellunge were greater than 40 inches long. The longest muskellunge captured was a 47.6 inch female.

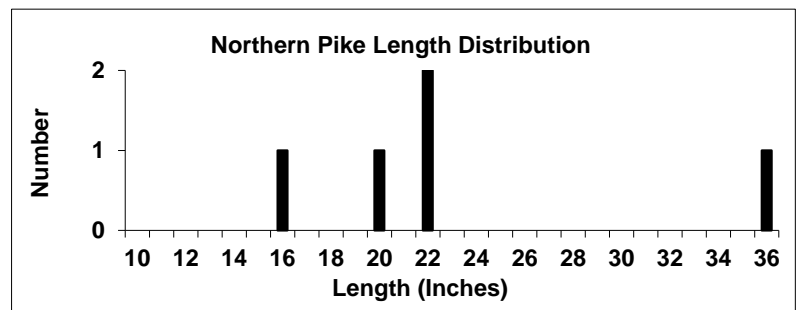
Netting will take place again in the spring of 2017 to recapture muskellunge marked in 2016 to estimate the adult muskellunge population.

\* Note: Adult muskellunge are defined as all sexable muskellunge (regardless of length) and those of unknown sex  $\geq 30$  inches in length.



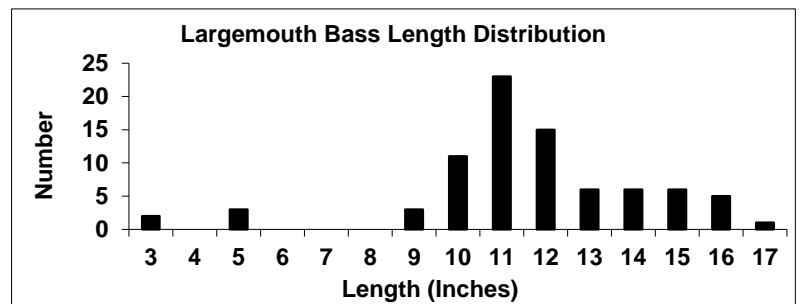
### Northern Pike

Northern pike are rare in White Sand Lake. A total of 5 were captured during this survey. The longest pike captured was a 36.0 inch female.



### Largemouth Bass

Largemouth bass are common in White Sand Lake. Survey crews captured 76 adult ( $\geq 8$  inches) largemouth bass during sampling. Twenty-two percent of the largemouth bass captured were 14 inches or greater in length with the longest being 17.1 inches.



### Smallmouth Bass

A mark-recapture survey was conducted to estimate the number of adult ( $\geq 8$  inches) smallmouth bass present. Ninety-one smallmouth bass were fin clipped in netting and angling surveys, and 10 were recaptured during a single night of electrofishing.

Based on these results White Sand Lake is estimated to contain 311 adult smallmouth bass (0.4/acre). Approximately 74% of the adult smallmouth were greater than 14 inches. The longest smallmouth captured was 20.0 inches. These numbers do not reflect the entire smallmouth bass population present in White Sand Lake, as smaller juvenile fish are not included in the estimate.

### PANFISH

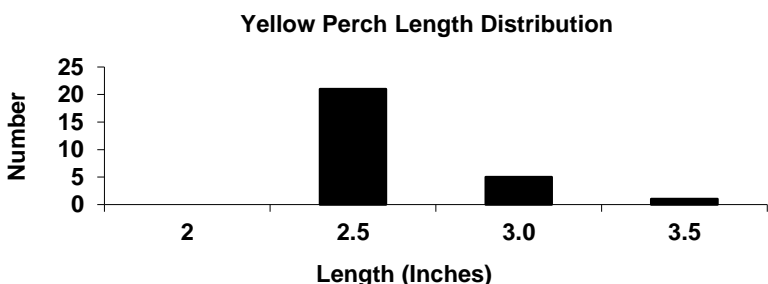
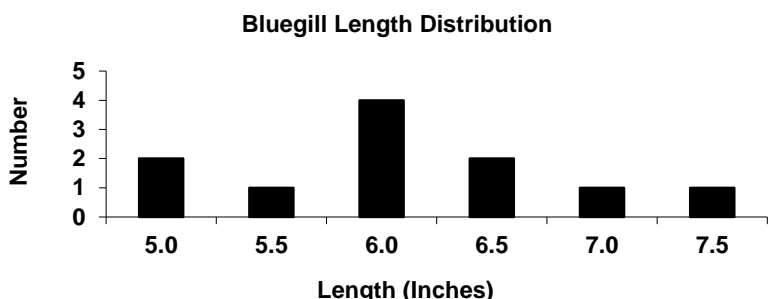
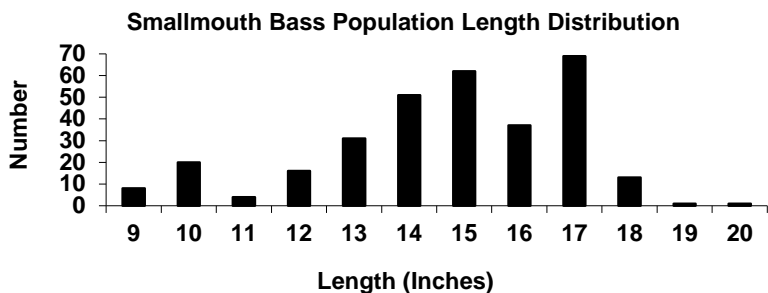
Panfish information presented here was collected from 2 half mile electrofishing stations surveyed on 5/26/2016.

### Bluegill

Only 11 bluegills were captured from two electrofishing stations, none of which were longer than 8 inches. The largest bluegill captured was 7.7 inches.

### Yellow Perch

Only 27 yellow perch were captured from 2 electrofishing stations. All of the yellow perch captured were less than 4 inches with the majority being less than 3 inches.



### Other Fish Species

Other fish species captured during this survey but in lower numbers were: black crappie, pumpkinseed, rock bass, white sucker, black bullhead, yellow bullhead, burbot, grass pickerel, logperch, Iowa darter, mimic shiner, bluntnose minnow, golden shiner,

### General Fishing Regulations for White Sand Lake, Vilas County, 2017

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 6 - March 4	3	18 Inches
Smallmouth Bass	May 6 - June 16 June 17 - March 4	0 1 in total w/ LMB	Catch and Release 18 inches
Largemouth Bass	May 6 - March 4	1 in total w/ SMB	18 inches
Muskellunge	May 27 - November 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 6 - March 4	5	No minimum length

The regulatory information provided was current as of June 2017. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from the DNR web site at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations/>

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for White Sand Lake, Vilas County, contact:

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